

Dressage NZ Committee Meeting

**Millennium Hotel | Rotorua
Sunday 28 June 2015 at 9.15am**

In Attendance

| Voting Delegates : 29 (incl Board) | | | |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Alicia Collin | NI Riders Rep | Marty Pow | SCNO |
| Allie Harper | SI Riders Rep | Lynda Clark | Board (Training & Development) |
| Aubrey McRae | Canterbury | Mary Davis | Southland |
| Bernice Frost | Taihape | Nicola Sim | Ashburton |
| Betty Brown | Auckland | Robin Potter | Waitemata |
| Dana Haszard | Taranaki | Rosanne Rix | Wellington |
| Debra Cowen | Waikato | Sally Isaac | Bay of Plenty |
| Genevieve Denize | Board (Rules) | Sara Bright | Board (Finance) |
| Gill Morley | NHB | Sue Harris | Gisborne |
| Helen Hughes-Keen | Chair of Selectors | Sue Hobson (2) | Board (Judges) & SHB |
| Judith Matthews | Northland | Susan Tomlin | Central Districts |
| Julie Malcolm | Board (Marketing) | Tracy Johnson | Marlborough |
| Kate Dodd | Otago | Wendy Jeffery | Wairarapa |
| Karen Trotter | Board Chair | Wendy Sowerby | Nelson |
| | | | |

Observers

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Amanda Waddell | Ashburton | Nicola Smith | Bay of Plenty |
| Brenda Bellringer | Taranaki | Paula Stuart | Waikato |
| Celine Filbee | Event Manager | Heather Hilder | Waitemata |
| Christine Buchanan | Waitemata | Andrea Raves | Wellington |
| Ian Childs | Wellington | Pam Gilmour | Auckland |
| Judy Alderdice | Auckland | Judy Collin | Auckland |
| Kat McMillan | Bay of Plenty | Judith Cunningham | Waitemata |
| Kellie Hamlett | Bay of Plenty | Ottilie Upshall | Bay of Plenty |
| Linda Warren-Davey | Canterbury | | |

In attendance: Wendy Hamerton (Sport Manager/Secretary)
Vicki Glynn (ESNZ CEO)

Apologies: Sharon Field (SHB)

1. Confirmation of Minutes

Of a meeting of the Dressage NZ Committee, held on 15 & 16 April 2015, having been circulated by email & attached to this agenda) be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising: There were no matters arising

Moved Minutes be accepted as correct: Susan Tomlin / **Seconded** Julie Malcolm **Carried**

2. General Business not on the Agenda

a. AGM Format:

Andrea Raves considered that whilst the workshops were interesting, there was insufficient time for good discussion about some important agenda items and some members were not given the opportunity to vote on matters which had to be brought forward to the committee meeting.

Betty Brown agreed that agenda items were rushed and that the workshops were not relevant to the AGA

It was agreed these comments be noted when scheduling 2016 conference

b. Dressage Northern Hawkes Bay

Gill Morley advised that Dressage NHB is affiliated to the HB Equestrian Park and have plans to build a large sand arena (to hold 5 x 60 x 20m), 80 covered yards and 100 open yards, noting that the HB A & P Assn venue is expensive to hire and the surface is not suitable.

3. Correspondence

- i. **From Jo Telfer:** re pony sport development; Referred to General Business
 - ii. **From AMDG:** re national series Referred to General Business
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4. Election of Officers

The Chair moved that Celine Filbee & Kellie Hamlett be appointed scrutineers.

Carried

Chair
Nominated by: **Karen Trotter**
Dressage Waitemata R Potter/H Hilder
Dressage Waikato D Cowen/K Lockhart
Dressage Southern HB S Field/S Hobson
Dressage Central Districts S Tomlin/N Bours
Members R Kofoed/G Kofoed

Carried

Finance
Nominated by: **Sara Bright**
Dressage Waitemata R Potter/H Hilder
Dressage Central Districts S Tomlin/N Bours
Dressage Southern HB S Field/S Hobson
Members R Kofoed/G Kofoed

Carried

Judges Officer
Nominated by: **Sue Hobson**
Dressage Waitemata R Potter/H Hilder
Dressage Waikato D Cowen/K Lockhart
Dressage Southern HB S Field/S Hobson
Dressage Central Districts S Tomlin/N Bours
Members R Kofoed/G Kofoed

Carried

Rules Officer
Nominated by: **Genevieve Denize**
Dressage Waitemata R Potter/H Hilder
Dressage Taranaki B Bellringer/S Flitcroft
Dressage Central Districts S Tomlin/N Bours
Dressage Southern HB S Field/S Hobson
Members R Kofoed/G Kofoed

Carried

Judges SC (2 from 3)
Nominated by: **Mura Love**
Dressage Gisborne S Harris/S Watts
Dressage Bay of Plenty S Isaac/V Knight
Members D Barke/P Barke

Judges SC
Nominated by: **Michelle Paterson**
Dressage Waikato D Cowen/K Lockhart
Dressage Southern HB S Field/S Hobson
Members R Kofoed/G Kofoed

Judges SC
Nominated by: **Linda Warren-Davey**
Dressage Southern HB S Field/S Hobson
Members M vander Pol/A McRae
Members R Kofoed/G Kofoed

Michelle Paterson & Linda Warren-Davey were declared elected as members of the Judges Sub-Committee

Carried

Rules SC
Nominated by: **Alicia Collin** (Alicia advised the meeting she was abstaining from this vote)
Dressage Taranaki B Bellringer/N Lumb

Nominated by: **Elisha McCarty**
Dressage Waikato D Cowen/K Lockhart

Alicia Collin was declared elected as member of the Rules Sub-Committee
Gill Morley moved the voting papers be destroyed

Carried

5. Remits & Matters Referred from Conference 27/6/15

Reference By-law 17 (Amendment July 01) Dressage Rules for Administration

9b Approval from committee:

- (i) Any consideration requiring alteration to Dressage NZ rules, regulations, or constitution requires a 75% majority of the Committee vote.
- (ii) Any other consideration requires a simple majority of the Committee vote.
- (iii) Any approval that is not unanimous requires a ballot process to be followed.

Discussion Re By-Law 17: Rules for Administration of Dressage

Lynda Clark presented an overview of the changes on behalf of the other sub – committee members, Scott McKenna & Robin Haberfield, Feedback received and discussion

1. Quorum

- The consensus of the meeting considered a quorum of the board should consist of four board members not three as suggested in the proposed changes

2. Board Tenure and composition

- Discussion around tenure resulted in a consensus of 6 yr limit rather than 9, preferred option 3 x 2
- Robin Potter (Waitemata) noted that there were never a large number of applications or nominations under the current system
- Andrea Raves questioned if the appointed positions should have a time limit
- Gen Denize said it was important to make rules which supported best practice, not based on possible outcomes. That the ideal tenure needs to be agreed with a provision that if a vacancy cannot be filled by an individual with the skills required, the incumbent may be approved for a further term. This then does not undermine the general principle. Leonie Coker sought clarification that any tenure limitations would not be applied until the new rule was passed. This was confirmed
- Further consideration be given to maintaining specialized capabilities such as finance officer

3. AGM – (Clause 19)

- Gen Denize noted the process for remits was not properly defined and this should be included so that the process is easily accessible and transparent for members

The proposal that Area Delegates only vote at the AGM created mixed reaction, some members seeing that this was a representative vote and fairer on smaller and outlying areas, otherwise the host area and larger areas could have an undue influence on voting. This view was clearly expressed by SCNO delegate Marty Pow, and Leonie Coker.

The ESNZ CEO expressed the personal view that all members should be able to vote at an AGM.

The Dressage Sport Manager noted that representative voting occurred at the ESNZ AGA for all matters except the election of the President.

Lynda Clark also noted that voting at the AGM of ESNZ Eventing is not open to all members.

4. Membership

- Betty Brown queried the definition of membership as there is currently no facility for individuals to join DRESSAGE. That being an ESNZ member does not mean someone is a member of a Dressage Group. It was noted that an Area group may not collect a membership “fee” to consider an individual being a member, so the word “Financial” needs to be deleted but a clear definition of what defines a “Dressage member” determined. The SM noted that specific group membership would require another level of data base management by someone, and hopefully with a new ESNZ database being proposed, this should be able to be utilized.

5. Area Branches

- Kellie Hamlett noted that groups such as Bay of Plenty who are spread widely geographically and therefore have a number of branches feel the area vote is being diluted. Should area group definition be reconsidered on this basis ?

6. Remits

- Betty Brown proposed to reformat the remit process as currently individuals can put in a remit

7. Voting

- Kellie Hamlett proposed that individual voting be available for members re board elected positions, but felt that representative voting on remits is the preferred option
- Voting at the AGM. It was a consensus that to vote at the Dressage NZ AGM a person must be: an area delegate, or a member of the Board of Dressage, or a riders rep,
- It was noted by V Glynn the ESNZ President is currently a voting member ex-officio. The SM noted the CEO is ex-officio and has voted at dressage conference previously. V Glynn questioned that the CEO should have voting rights. This to be discussed further with ESNZ

8. Conclusion

- Gen Denize and the SC to amend the proposal to reflect the discussion. That a special AGA be held in April to move the final version for adoption in order it can be effected at the 2016 Conference. That ESNZ Board needs to give approval for changes under the current ESNZ constitution. The Chair proposed a vote of thanks to Lynda & the sub-committee for all the work they have done on this project

Wendy Sowerby (Nelson) and Rosanne Rix (Wellington) left the meeting at 10.45am

YOUNG DRESSAGE HORSE DEVELOPMENT & COMPETITIONS

Referred from Conference Agenda 10.4

Linda Warren - Davey spoke to the discussion paper that had been included in the conference agenda which proposed

- Proposed that Areas run two rounds at their regional shows using the EFA and FEI tests and results from these could form the basis of an accumulator similar to the Zilco Musicals with the final at HOY.
- That only qualified YH judges would officiate. Possibly the number of scores would be limited to ensure the young horses are not over competed. Betty Brown asked how many YH judges NZL has and what really is the purpose of the proposal? Sue Hobson replied 8, x 7 in the NI and x1 in the SI. Linda then suggested list 2 and above could judge these classes. Sue Hobson considered judging YH classes is a specialist area.
- Kate Dodd supported the idea of young horse classes at regional events and riders would possibly need to choose which classes they wished to target eg YH, Challenges, Musicals, Championships with their 4,5,6 yr olds. Alicia Collin also supported these classes which gave riders another option. Marty Pow considered it may encourage riders to register their young horses rather than just doing non-graded at LE. Nicola Sim suggested excluding professional riders to encourage grass roots riders to enter and have a chance of succeeding.
- Judith Matthews considered this would be a lot of work for areas for a relatively small number of horses. Celine Filbee confirmed there are 180 x 4,5,6 yr olds registered across all disciplines. Debra Cowen suggested one class could be run with each age group riding it's own test – similar to TOC
- The Sport Manager suggested that areas be given the option to run YH classes in the coming season and that they should send all results and comments back to LWD to process the data and use this as a platform for the following year. This was agreed in principle. The SM also noted that it was proposed to run the YH final 2016 with no guest rider to see if that encouraged greater participation.

Conclusion:

Linda Warren-Davey to progress YH competition development and it was also agreed to foster a YH judges Training programme

Mary Davis (Southland) and Allie Harper (SI Riders Rep) left the meeting at 11.45am

Sport Manager Presentation to FEI

The Sport Manager gave a verbal report regarding an opportunity all disciplines had to present to the new president of the FEI Ingmar de Vos in Wellington in early June. The main thrust was the challenges NZL faced being so far away from Europe, Olympic qualification, the FEI World Dressage Challenge and the transparency of FEI rules

RULE AMENDMENTS

Art 463. Para 1

- That this para be update to reflect the new ESNZ community membership

Art 463. Paras 2 -6 Re Age /Eligibility of Riders

- That this article be rewritten to clarify the age of young riders to ensure that unless specifically excluded or restricted to riders 17 – 21, that all young riders on a horse are eligible for young rider championships
- That the age of pony riders be consistent with SJ and RAS ie. Riders who are 16 on 1 Aug in any calendar year may continue to compete in that age group until 31 July the following year
- That the 1 Aug be the official age for all pony & young rider age groups

Amendment to Rule 463.7

- CM = Category Masters
- For Riders **50yrs & over**(age from the beginning of the calendar year that the rider turns 50).

- **Carried**

- **Voted against: Taihape, Marlborough, Canterbury**

Art 464 Re Downgrading

- Discussion took place around the current downgrading rule and what should happen if a rider wishes to compete in an NCH or other specified class at the horse's original grade within the 12 mth downgrade period.
 - o It was agreed that this is permissible, but at any point that a rider gets a grading point in the original grade, they may not revert to any lower level.
- Discussion took place around the possibility to downgrade horses and ponies to Level 1
 - o It was agreed CN riders only could downgrade a horse or pony to level 1

Art 479 Re Whips:

- Gen Denize proposed to rewrite the rule to clearly state
 - o When a whip can be carried
 - o When a whip cannot be carried
 - o What length of whip may be carried
- **Agreed that no whips are permitted in any Level 6-9 test at the NCH or HoY.**
- Discussion followed regarding an athlete carrying a whip beyond maximum permitted length in the warm up area. It was agreed in principle that the first offence should entail a warning, but re offending will entail elimination. The RO to word an appropriate rule which clearly defined the penalty with respect to combination/ class / event etc

Art 480 Re Dress Code

Resolved that the new dress code table presented at conference be adopted with the amendments/ additions below

- That the amendments agreed at conference be approved in principle and worded appropriately
 - o Practice days & TE: The Club can specify the dress code required
 - o Gloves are optional at practice days, & non-graded TE, compulsory from Levels 1-5 graded
 - o **Black**, white off, white or same colour as jacket are compulsory at levels 6-9
 - o That when the OC gives permission for riders to compete without jackets in hot weather, **sleeveless shirts** are permitted **Wellington voted against**

Rule 488.14 Re ID Tags

To make PR details compulsory on ID tag worn by horses at events rather than “preferable”

At all other times during the event, horses and ponies must have Identification Numbers, (~~preferably also~~) with the horse’s name, and the person responsible name and mobile number attached to the horse (eg on the halter, cover) Engraved metal discs or cattle ear tags are examples of acceptable methods of identification at times the horse is not being exercised or competed.

All the above rule amendments were passed with Gen Denize to format and publish

6. General Business

i. Matters referred from Dressage Board Meeting 26/6/15

- Grand Prix Special Rose: The SM advised that the Rose Fundraising project is confirmed. Roses will be available winter 2016. Price to be confirmed. Areas were all requested to advise who their local co-ordinator will be.
- Shiwon Green & F1 selected to represent NZ and World Young Horse Championships in Verden in August. This is a first for NZ. It has been a complex process given that NZ does not have its own studbook. Approval required from NF NZL, British Dressage, GER Oldenburg Studbook and having met minimum FEI qualifying standard of 68%
- Dressage is working in partnership with Equidays to offer a national Olympic qualifier on Thursday 15th October (GP) and a GP Freestyle on the Friday prior to an official national judges clinic with Peter Holler at approx 3pm. Peter Holler & Susie Hoevenaars will also present a master class on Thursday evening following the GP. Being able to cost share with another organization makes projects more affordable
- Young Rider Dressage Camps planned for both islands in October 2015
- ESNZ AGA. Dressage Delegates to the AGA will be the Board plus three other members to be confirmed.

ii. **2015/16 Calendar:** The Sport Manager advised that all dates submitted had now been uploaded to the website and any errors noticed should be notified to her for correction. The Sport Manager suggested that with the new earlier dates for NCH and HoY, that areas with suitable venues may consider running RE events. These would not include series qualifiers but could count for selection purposes, national event qualification if appropriate and increased opportunities for judge training. A suggestion was also made that the NICH in their current format could be disbanded and a northern (Upper NI) central (lower NI) and southern (SI) championships could be held making a key event more accessible to more riders. This to be considered for 2016/17 season

iii. **April Planning Forum 2016:** 5/6 April 2016. Noted

iv. Conference 2016

Dressage Taranaki distributed a flyer with information re the conference in New Plymouth 25/26 June 2016. EOI from SI areas for 2017 invited were invited. No definite EOI.

v. National Series & Sponsors 2015/16

Celine Filbee updated delegates regarding the new SUPER 5 Challenge concept and the plan to run the Challenge finals in a similar manner to the WDC and travel judges inter-island to determine the national winner update. That areas would be asked to run specific combined pony & young rider classes at regional shows as part of a series to encourage participation. More information will be distributed via the website as soon as possible

vi. Performance Awards & Series Format 2015/16

Dressage Auckland- Manukau sought clarification as to how they should manage the Advanced Challenge which is combined for Levels 6/7 without compromising riders chances of entering the Championship at each level when 6/7 is split. Discussion provided some ideas for AMDG as to how this can be achieved. AMDG proposals around series points were noted and the SM advised that there would be some changes made to pony and young rider series in the coming year. That participation had not increased in the Pony & Young rider performance awards competition based on the card system – this seemed to have stagnated and there were increasingly inherent issues with incorrect and late cards being received making management and final results difficult. There was no way to promote the current status of results throughout the series.

vii. Pony Rider/Dressage & Young Dressage Pony Development

The discussion paper from Jo Telfer around pony rider and young pony development was well received and the SM was requested to respond to discuss further what support this group could provide

The Chair thanked Julie Malcolm, retiring Board member, and everyone for their input, and declared the meeting closed at 3pm

The Sport Manager proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair